

# BLACK SCIENCE

5

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**RECAP:** After the last dimension tragically claimed one of their own, the Anarchist League of Scientists have earned a short reprieve. Jumping to a seemingly peaceful alien world, Grant begins to try and figure out who among them sabotaged the Pillar. But the team doesn't know that they're being stalked by a mysterious masked figure...

**BLACK SCIENCE** created by Rick Remender & Matteo Scalera.



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NO  
FLANK  
IT.

NO  
SPLANG  
IT.

ROOM  
LETP-9.

TOP-  
DREEP.

You splang in it,  
You  
don't clarmpliz  
r home carpets,  
flankit to

"I MET GRANT MCCAY  
IN COLLEGE.

"HE WAS A LEGEND.

"THE GREAT BOY GENIUS,  
TALK OF CAMPUS.



I HATED HIM FROM THE SECOND WE MET.

HE THOUGHT HE WAS CLEVER AS DON RICKLES.

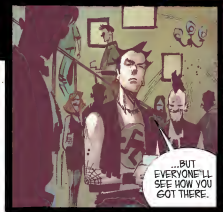
BUT IT WAS SUCH AN OBVIOUS CONTRIVANCE, A PRE-REHEARSED DANCE ROUTINE TO EARN THE ADULATION OF STRANGERS.



I REMEMBER THE FIRST THING HE SAID TO ME.

I WAS TALKING TO THE SON OF A CEO OF A LARGE RESEARCH FIRM.

MCCAY WALKED OVER, SNEERING DOWN HIS PIERCED NOSE SAID, "AMBIITION AND POLITICKING WILL GET YOU FURTHER THAN TALENT..."



...BUT EVERYONE'LL SEE HOW YOU GOT THERE.



CAN YOU IMAGINE THE SELF-RIGHTEOUSNESS TO DELIVER THAT KIND OF A LECTURE TO SOMEONE YOU JUST MET?

THE FUCKING PIETY.



UNBEARABLE, COMPLETELY UP HIS OWN ASS.

SO WHY DO THEY ALL LOVE HIM SO MUCH?

WHY WOULD WARD DIE FOR HIM?



HE TELLS THEM WHAT THEY WANT TO HEAR.

PEOPLE LOVE LIARS.

IF THAT'S TRUE...



...WHY DO THEY HATE US?

# BLACK SCIENCE

## "LIES, LIES, LIES"

RICK REMENDER  
WRITER

MATTEO SCALERA  
ARTIST

DEAN WHITE  
PAINTED ART

RUS WOOTON  
LETTERING + DESIGN

SEBASTIAN GIRNER  
EDITOR



RISE AND SHINE,  
BUBBLEGUM.

THERE'S  
MY GIRL.

DADDY!

WE  
THOUGHT  
YOU  
WERE...

I KNOW.

BUT THANKS  
TO SHAWN AND  
YOUR UNCLE  
WARD...

WARD...

"WE'RE GONNA  
NEED GRAVITY  
BOOTS, MCKAY."





GRAVITY  
BOOTS?

SURE. IN CASE WE END  
UP IN A ZERO-GRAV  
DIMENSION.

ALL RIGHT.  
I'LL HAVE SHAWN  
DRAW UP SOME  
PLANS—

GRANT!



I FIGURED  
IT OUT!

WHAT ARE  
WE TALKING  
ABOUT, JEN?



IT'S  
THE ONION.  
GET IT?

I DESIGNED  
IT FOR OUR  
SUITS.



HEY-HEY! THAT'S  
AMAZING, JEN!  
I LOVE IT!

AW, THANKS.

REALLY  
SMART.

THE MOMENT YOU  
CREATED IT I BET IT  
SPLIT OUT IN TO A BILLION  
PARALLEL UNIVERSES AS  
A SYMBOL OF HOPE—

\*—I GUARANTEE THIS EMBLEM IS  
GOING TO BE FAMOUS ACROSS  
THE EVERVERSE!\*

WE CAN'T  
THINK ABOUT  
OUR LOSSES  
NOW.



I KNOW THAT SOUNDS CALLOUS, BUT WE HAVE TO SAVE OUR GRIEVING FOR WHEN WE'RE HOME AND SAFE.

SHAWN ALREADY TOLD US, DAD.

WE NEED TO FOCUS ON MAKING THEIR SACRIFICE MATTER BY GETTING HOME.



SHOW THE WORLD HOW MUCH GOOD THE PILLAR CAN DO.

AND IT JUMPS IN TWENTY MINUTES, SO...

SO... DOES THAT MEAN IT'S FIXED?

WE'RE GOING HOME?



NOT JUST YET.

WE WERE UP WORKING ON IT FOR HOURS, BUT... IT'S STILL GOT A FEW SMALL PROBLEMS.

WHY DOES IT SOUND LIKE YOU'RE LYING?



DAD-- I-- I DON'T WANT TO GO.

I DON'T WANT TO DO IT AGAIN. IT'S SAFE HERE-- WE CAN STAY!

YOU COULD BUILD A NEW ONE! CAN'T YOU BUILD A NEW ONE?



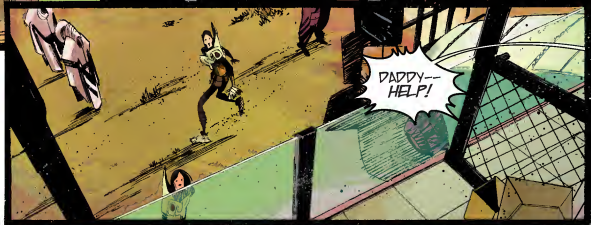


THEY NEED ME TO SAY IT.

WE ALL KNOW IT'S A LIE...









LET GO!

I'M TRYING TO SAVE YOUR LIVES!



WHU DEM GLOBIN—!

WHAT'RE YOU—

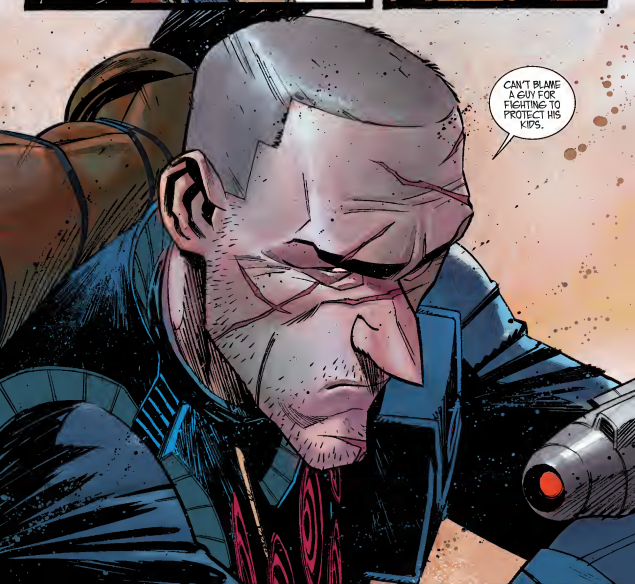


HE'S NOT REAL. NONE OF IT IS.

JUST GET IN—

BUDDY, YOU FUCKED WITH THE WRONG FAMILY—





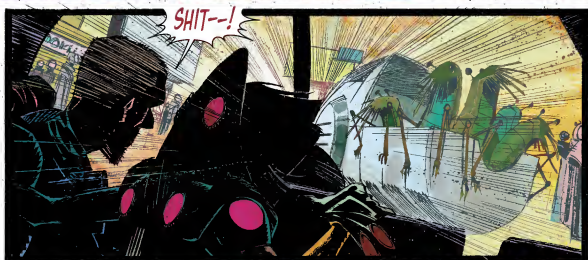














CATCH YOUR BREATH--KEEP IT TOGETHER--

THEY'RE EXPECTING YOU TO SAVE THEM--

CAN'T DO THAT IF YOU GO INTO A PANIC ATTACK.



PLEASE LET ME FIND THEM--

PLEASE, PLEASE FUCKING GOD, LET THEM BE OKAY--

SPARE MY CHILDREN--



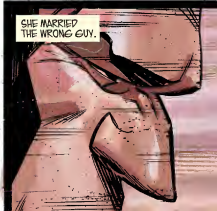
JUST LET ME GET THEM HOME TO SARA--

THEN YOU CAN HAVE ME FOR WHATEVER REVENGE YOU WANT.



SARA DOESN'T DESERVE THIS.

THE POOR WOMAN ONLY EVER MADE ONE MISTAKE--



SHE MARRIED THE WRONG GUY.









OH,  
SWEETHEART.

OH, MY  
BEAUTIFUL  
BABY  
BOY...



I'VE  
MISSED YOU,  
BOTH OF YOU,  
MORE THAN  
YOU CAN EVER  
KNOW...

OH, MY  
BABIES...  
MY SWEET  
BABIES...



I'VE BEEN TRYING  
TO TELL YOU, WE'RE  
HERE TO SAVE  
YOU, PIA.

WE'RE  
YOUR REAL  
PARENTS.



AND WE LOVE YOU  
MORE THAN YOU CAN  
KNOW, NATHAN.

YOU...



YOU'RE  
NOT MY  
WOMAN...

NO, SON,  
SHE'S  
NOT.



GET  
THE FUCK  
AWAY FROM MY  
KIDS!

C'MON.

PLEASE, GRANT—LET US TAKE  
THE CHILDREN... WE'RE  
TRYING TO HELP. TO KEEP  
THEM SAFE.

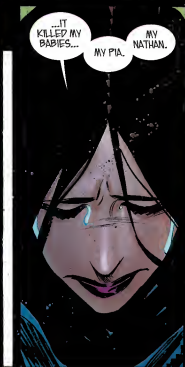
YOU...  
YOU DON'T  
DESERVE  
THEM...



I ALSO  
CREATED  
A PILLAR.

IT WAS ALSO  
SABOTAGED.

ONLY INSTEAD  
OF JUMPING, AS  
YOUR'S DID, MINE  
EXPLODED...



...IT  
KILLED MY  
BABIES...

MY PIA.

MY NATHAN.



THERE IS MORE AT STAKE  
HERE THAN JUST OUR  
CHILDREN'S LIVES.

THE PILLAR  
IS MORE  
DANGEROUS  
THAN YOU COULD  
KNOW.

EACH TIME YOU  
JUMP YOU PUNCH A  
HOLE THROUGH THE  
FABRIC OF REALITY—  
YOU PUT THE ENTIRE  
EVERVERSE IN DANGER.



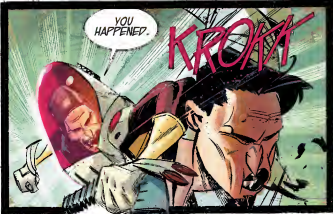
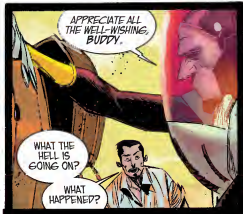
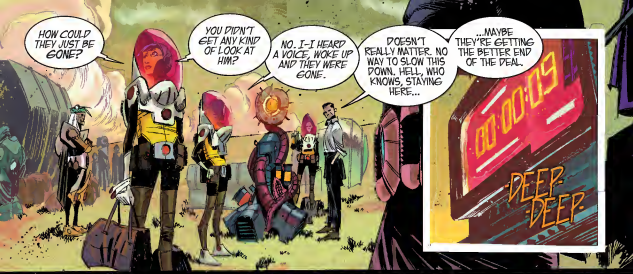
THEN I GUESS  
WE'RE BOTH  
GUILTY.

WE FOLLOW THROUGH THE  
CRACKS LEFT IN OTHERS' WAKES.  
THE DAMAGE TO THE WALLS  
HAS ALREADY BEEN  
DONE.

WE STOP  
IGNORANT FOOLS—  
LIKE YOU—FROM  
DECIMATING  
REALITY!













RAGE PUSHES ME  
OVER THE EDGE.

SAME MISTAKE  
I ALWAYS MAKE.

LEAP  
BEFORE  
I LOOK.

TO BE CONTINUED...

# FROM PILLAR TO POST



CALLING ALL DIMENSIONAUTS!

Send comments, questions and distress signals to  
[WriteRemender@gmail.com](mailto:WriteRemender@gmail.com)! Mark letters "OK to print".

**RR** - When technology finally catches up to my dreams, we'll be able to include a microchip in the final pages of this comic book, and as you turn the last page the narrator from the Dukes of Hazzard television series will say something like, "That old Grant McKay got himself in a real pickle this time." or he'll bust out some folksy wisdom or some bad pun. That would make the cliffhangers perfect in my opinion. But, until then, you'll just have to imagine them yourself.

Did you notice how many extra pages we gave you again? Most comic books give you what, 20 pages? We average anywhere between 24 and 28 pages an issue. That's as much bang as we can give you for your buck. It's done out of love.

Okay, let's do some letters and get out of here. I'm tired. My wife is in New York on business, and both of my kids came down with the flu. Which of course means that I also have begun to come down with it while juggling a 3 and a 4 year old. Poor me.

When *Fear Agent* ended, it left a hole in the universe, like all truly epic things do when they end. And we eager readers were left to wonder what could possibly fill that vacuum caused by what we lost when it ended. Personally, I thought you'd blown your "life's great literary achievement" load with F.A. and didn't think to come back to you as that very one to make things right and entertaining again by filling the very vacuum you made with something else you made. Rick, Destroyer of Worlds and now...creator of new and possibly better worlds?

What I'm trying to say is only an idiot--or someone who believed in his own wild ideas strongly enough that he believed he could top his last, great once in a lifetime adventure with his next one--would attempt to draw lightning to the same place twice and wink at us just before that second bolt struck again where the first one's mark still smoldered. I loved F.A. and with all due respect to Heath and everyone else in that story who died so many times to entertain me--BLACK SCIENCE has more than filled the vacuum in just four brief issues. I'll be damned! Thank you!

But Ward, man! You heartless bastard! I almost forgot how you like to conjure compelling characters with layers and depth just to make killing them suck that much harder. FUCK Kadir!

Please take your time before destroying

this truly epic tale. Take all the issues you need (and then some more for good measure).

Cheers!

Jef

**RR** - Thank you for writing and Jef. We thank you for support. Seems that people who enjoy *Fear Agent* tend to follow me around and read my comic books, which of course helps me continue to make them and not have to leave the house very often. That's better for everyone.

Given the size of our ensemble cast the series will take a good bit longer before I kill everyone in some horrific way. Who knows maybe this one has a happy ending. But we won't be getting there anytime soon. Everyone on the team is having a blast and the sales keep going up thousands of copies every month, so provided people keep buying the book you can expect BLACK SCIENCE to show up every 30 days until we hit our intended conclusion.

Hello BLACK SCIENCE team!!

First and foremost I am having a blast reading BLACK SCIENCE! The art in book 1 drew me in (by blowing my mind!) and now I'm completely obsessed with the story! Which leads me to this comment...

I CAN'T BELIEVE YOU KILLED WARD...

Argh...Kadir is such a scumbag... I hope you guys have something especially heinous up your sleeves to deal with him in the future!! I would love to watch him suffer HUGE!!

30 days feel like an eternity when wrapped in a story as good as BLACK SCIENCE! Thank you!

Your loyal reader,  
Gregg P

**RR** - Gregg, Kadir will face the ramifications for his choices soon. But there is so much more to it all than what we've seen so far. Next issue gives you the first big clue as to the secret mystery unfolding. See you then.

Hey Rick,

Thanks for another awesome issue! They are flying off the shelves, and I doubt the popularity will wane. I can even see BLACK SCIENCE action figures in the future.

Hey, any connection to the Native American's "high-tech" and our team's tech? Hmm, I wonder. I'm sure you have tons of surprises ahead. Sorry to see Ward go. Or maybe he hasn't? Hmm, I wonder.

Topher S.

**RR** - Glad the book is selling. It's so nice to be able to cook up ideas for something knowing that the book will have an audience large enough to ensure that it can continue. As for the origin of the Pillar technology and its connection to the other worlds they travel to, that is all part of the bigger mystery, and I promise we will be touching on that in the next story arc beginning in issue 7.

Hey Rick,

Just finished reading the third issue of BLACK SCIENCE. I must say, I love this book. I've been reading superhero comics since I was old enough to read, but have recently started to branch out to more sci-fi and horror based books. And I think that reading BLACK SCIENCE has really cemented me firmly in the non-superhero-type comic books.

T. Lawrence

**RR** - I'm glad you like the book. I think the thing to consider when we discuss liking "superhero comic books" versus "science fiction comics" versus "horror comics," is that the genre isn't really that important, it's all just trappings. What's really important is the passion of the creative team and the result whether that story is about a noble superhero, a drunken alien exterminator, or a girl who walks in the minds of serial killers. Having worked in all of these genres, and often, I think that they all are simply color painted on the stage, but in the end it's the voice of the characters and their trials and tribulations that make us love story. I think that there's room for all of these wonderful crazy things. And I don't think that there need be an adversarial relationship provided that the work achieves a high standard by the passionate craftsmen striving for high quality.

Okay, I'm in a go to bed. Really appreciate you guys comin' around fer Ol' Timey Sassafras yammerin' on 'bout sci-fi shenanigans. Tell ya 'nother tale in three weeks. (insert banjo riff)

Rick



# NEXT MONTH

## BLACK SCIENCE

6

RICK REMENDER  
MATTEO SCALERA  
DEAN WHITE



\$3.50



# BLACK SCIENCE



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